

Applicant : Skolnick et al.
Serial No. : 09/493,022
Filed : January 27, 2000
Page : 7 of 8

Attorney's Docket No.: 10886-045001 / TSRT 655.1/
SCR 2232P

REMARKS

These remarks are in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 20, 2003. Claim 16 has been canceled without prejudice to Applicants' right to prosecute the canceled subject matter in any divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part, or other application. Claim 14 has been amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification as filed. For example, support can be found at page 89, line 30 to page 90, line 14. Other claims were amended to correct dependency upon cancellation of claim 16. No new matter is believed to have been introduced.

Applicants respectfully request that the non-elected claims be maintained in the present application; however, should the Examiner find allowable subject matter the Applicants hereby authorize the Examiner to cancel the withdrawn claims by Examiner's amendment.

I. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 14-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly anticipated by Kolinski et al. (Proceedings of HRCL Workshop on Monte Carlo Approach to Biopolymers and Protein Folding. P. Grassberger et al., Eds., World Scientific, Singapore/London, pages 100-130). Claim 16 has been canceled thus the rejection is moot with respect to this claim. Applicants respectfully traverse with respect to the amended claims.

Kolinski et al., (HRCL Workshop) do not teach or suggest generating a first interaction chain from a template amino acid sequence and a second interaction chain from the target amino acid sequence and then minimizing the distances in the chain to correspond to the same interaction points in the template chain and filling the gaps with the target amino acid residues. Thus, Kolinski et al. do not anticipate Applicants' claimed invention as set forth in independent claim 14. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §102 rejection.

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Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 04/20/04



Joseph R. Baker, Jr.
Reg. No. 40,900

Fish & Richardson P.C.
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, California 92130
Telephone: (858) 678-5070
Facsimile: (858) 678-5099

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